16.	Rajasthan	1453
17.	Tamil Nadu (Including Chennai)	1414
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1734
19.	West Bengal (Including Calcutta Sikkim and Andaman Nicobar)	659
	Total	21328

Increase in Wages

2917. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the honorarium/wages of extra departmental employees;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). One man Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Charanjit Talwar, retired Judge of Delhi High Court to examine the condition of service and emoluments and other facilities available to the Extra Departmental Agents. The Committee has not submitted its report so far. The tenure of the Justice Talwar Committee Postal Extra Departmental System has been extended for a further period from 1.10.96 to 15.2.97 or three months from the date of submission of the Report of the Vth pay Commission, whichever is later.

Catering / Vending Contracts

2918. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government regarding transfer/ renewal of the catering/vending contract of the legal heir of the deceased contractor after completion of unexpired period; and

(b) the detail of catering/vending contracts held by legal heirs of the deceased contractor in each zonal railways, division-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) As per policy, in the event of death of licencee of a catering/vending unit, the licence can be transferred in the name of legal heir for the unexpired period of contract. Renewal of contract is permissible based, *inter-alia*, on satisfactory performance of the applicant.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Electrification of Railway Routes

2919. SHRI ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rail routes electrified in Assam so far; and

(b) the details of rail routes which are proposed to be electrified in the State in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No railway route has been electrified so far in the State of Assam.

(b) At present, there is no proposal to electrify any of the reilway routes falling in the State of Assam.

[Translation]

Facilities to Class III and IV Employees

2920. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a)whether the third and fourth class employees of MTNL, Delhi and MTNL, Mumbai are not enjoying the same facilities as have been given to employees of same categories in other parts of the country for the last decade;

(b) whether the case of providing deputation facility to these employees is still pending;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in order to provide same service conditions and facilities to them as have been given to the employees of same categories in the other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. In fact MTNL employees enjoy some additional facilities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The case is pending in the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi.

(d) In view of (a) above, no further steps are required to be taken.

Ring Railway Service in Delhi

2921. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make the Ring Railway Service in Delhi more systematic and efficient with a view to improve environment and to reduce congestion on roads;

(b) if so, the detalis thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for the development of Ring Railway Service in Delhi during the last three years, till date, and the achievements made in this regard;